

The Whitney Library
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Manuscript Register

MSS #246

**THOMAS PHILLIPS
MONUMENT COMPANY PAPERS**

Updated July 2015

Introduction

Thomas Phillips (1805-1887) was trained by New Haven's Ritter family, stonecarvers since the mid-eighteenth century. In 1882, Phillips bought out the Ritter firm. Phillips, looking to differentiate his work from the Ritters', began using granite bases for his monuments and moved the company to 148 Sylvan Avenue, New Haven. In 1888, Thomas Bassett (1869-1905) joined the firm as partner, and under his guidance, the firm expanded its product line to include monuments made by other firms. In the 90s, Herman Meister (1871-1958) and Stephen Peck Perkins (1878-1951) joined the firm and through their marketing and a reputation for fine craftsmanship, they made the Phillips Company the dominant monument maker in central Connecticut. However, the last decades of Thomas Phillips & Sons Company brought few big commissions, and their work consisted of reproducing designs made by others until it ceased operation in 1988.

The collection consists of model, pattern, and sketch books used by the designers and carvers (dating back to the 1840s), negotiations with purchasers, financial records, files, correspondence, and hundreds of photographs.

Bruce S. Elliott, Professor of History at Carleton University, Ottawa, organized Boxes 41-45 and Item 50 on June 30, 2015.

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1/G	May 19, 1911 to June 21, 1912 A-C
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2	Outgoing letters
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3/K	1927
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3/L	E-K
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3/O	1928
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4	Outgoing/Incoming correspondence
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4/K	1932
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4/L	G-M
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4/N	1933
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5	Correspondence
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5/I	1936 (includes order forms)
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7/E	Aug. 1, 1899 to Nov. 22, 1899 (correspondence received) 1-50 (Index Book)
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7/J	339-377
7/K	Nov. 18, 1899 to Mar. 31, 1900 (correspondence received) 1-84 (Index Book)
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7/N	March 20, 1900 to July 17, 1900 (correspondence received) 1-79
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7/P	202-277
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8	Correspondence
8/A	July 18, 1901 to Oct. 18, 1901 1-108 (Index book)
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8/D	Oct. 1900 to Feb. 1901 1-97 (Index book)
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8/F	Feb. 22, 1901 to May 10, 1901 1-174
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8/I	May 11, 1901 to Aug. 9, 1901 1-114 (Index book)
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8/L	Aug. 7, 1901 to Oct. 9, 1901 1-87 (Index book)
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9	Correspondence
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10	Correspondence
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11	Correspondence
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11/C	212-312
11/D	June 22, 1904 to Sept. 19, 1904 1-75 (Index book)
11/E	76-159
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11/G	Sept. 1904 to Jan 25, 1905 1-104 (Index book)
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11/K	Jan. 25, 1905 to Apr. 25, 1905 1-74 (Index book)
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13	Correspondence
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13/J	Jan. 1908 to Oct. 2, 1908 1-82 (Index book)
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13/M	Oct. 8, 1908 to March 1909 1-80 (Index book)
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14/A	March 13, 1909 to June 30, 1909 1-86 (Index book)
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14/D	July 20, 1909 to Nov. 8, 1909 1-83 (Index book)
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14/M	Sept. 26, 1910 to Apr. 12, 1911 1-87 (Index book)
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15	Correspondence
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15/C	209-321
15/D	Nov. 28, 1911 to July 1, 1912 1-86 (Index book)
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15/G	July 2, 1912 to Feb. 7, 1913 1-91 (Index book)
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15/J	Feb. 1913 to Sept. 1913 1-110 (Index book)
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16	Correspondence
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16/E	426-603
16/F	Sept. 5, 1914 to May 26, 1915 1-96 (Index book)
16/G	97-199
16/H	200-315
16/I	May 27, 1915 to Feb. 1916 1-94 (Index book)
16/J	95-202
16/K	203-285
16/L	Feb. 1916 to July 1, 1917 1-101 (Index book)
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16/N	226-327
17	Copies of correspondence sent (bound volumes) Oct. 19, 1887 to March 19, 1889

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	Dec. 6, 1890 to July 12, 1892
	May 16, 1896 to March 20, 1897
	March 22, 1897 to Jan. 27, 1898
	March 26, 1900 to Aug. 21, 1900
	Jan. 16, 1902 to May 12, 1902
	May 12, 1902 to Sept. 30, 1902
	Sept. 30, 1902 to April 15, 1903
18	Copies of correspondence sent (bound volumes) Apr. 16, 1903 to Dec. 20, 1906
19	Copies of correspondence sent (bound volumes) Dec. 24, 1906 to Apr. 11, 1910
20	Orders 1 (1905) to 2299 (1912)
21	Orders 2300 (1912) to 4299 (1917)
22	Orders 4300 (1917) to 5599 (1920)
23	Orders 5600 (1920) to 7598 (1925)
24	Orders 7600 (1925) to 8699 (1928)
25	Orders 8700 (1928) to 9099 (1928)
26	Orders 9100 (1928) to 10299 (1931)
27	Orders 10300 (1931) to 12499 (1934)
28	Orders 12500 (1934) to 15599 (1939)
29	Orders 15600 (1939) to 18399 (1946)
30	Orders 18400 (1939) to 20999 (1952)
31	Orders 21000 (1952) to 24399 (1957)
32	Orders 24400 (1957) to 26799 (1961)
33	Orders 26800 (1961) to 29099 (1963)
34	Orders 29100 (1965) to 31099 (1969)
35	Orders 31100 (1968) to 33199 (1972)
36	Orders 33200 (1972) to 35199 (1975)
37	Orders 35200 (1975) to 37099 (1979)
38	Orders 37100 (1979) to 38899 (1982)

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39	Orders 38900 (1982) to 40499 (1985)
40	Orders 40500 (1985) to 41789 (1988) Memorial work done in various cemeteries Cemetery regulations Cemetery names and superintendents (1950s?)
41	Trade catalogs National organizations States: CT to GA
42	Trade catalogs States: IL to OH
43	Trade catalogs States: OR to UT
44	Trade catalogs States: VT
45	Trade catalogs International: Canada, Italy Tool catalogs
Oversized	
Item 1	Day-book Jan. 1, 1864 to May 23, 1870
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Item 1b	Day-book May 22, 1870 to Dec. 11, 1875
Item 1c	Day-book Dec. 11, 1875 to Aug. 20, 1882
Item 2	Day-book Aug. 28, 1882 to July 28, 1886
Item 3	Day-book July 30, 1886 to Feb. 10, 1890
Item 4	Day-book March 12, 1890 to March 23, 1893
Item 5	Day-book Apr. 1, 1893 to Sept. 24, 1897
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Item 7	Day-book Sept. 18, 1901 to Oct. 11, 1905
Item 8	Day-book Oct. 11, 1905 to Feb. 27, 1907
Item 8a	Orders Mar. 19, 1851 to Dec. 27 1856
Item 9	Orders Jan. 1859 to June 1863
Item 10	Orders June 1863 to Oct. 1871

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Item 12	Orders Nov. 1880 to May 1888
Item 13	Orders May 1888 to Aug. 1891
Item 14	Orders Aug. 1891 to May 1895
Item 15	Orders May 1895 to May 1899
Item 16	Orders May 1899 to Oct. 1901
Item 17	Orders Oct. 1901 to Sept. 1905
Item 18	Estimates 1897-1898
Item 19	Estimates Feb. 21, 1900 to Jun. 11, 1901
Item 20	Estimates Jun. 13, 1901 to Aug. 13, 1902
Item 21	Estimates Aug. 14, 1902 to Apr. 3, 1904
Item 22	Estimates Apr. 5, 1904 to Aug. 10, 1905
Item 23	Estimates Aug. 15, 1905 to Feb. 1, 1910
Item 24	Estimates Feb. 1, 1910 to Mar. 3, 1921
Item 25	Estimates Apr. 6, 1921 to Sept. 1924
Item 26	Estimates Oct. 7, 1924 to Mar. 19, 1929
Item 27	Estimates Apr. 10, 1929 to Feb. 29, 1932
Item 28	Financial ledger Jan. 1887 to Dec. 1899
Item 29	Financial ledger 1905-1906
Item 30	Financial ledger Feb. 1907 to May 1911
Item 31	Financial ledger Jun. 1912 to Jan. 1919
Item 32	Financial ledger Jan. 1919 to Oct. 1921
Item 33	Business Journal Feb. 1907 to Oct. 1911
Item 34	Business Journal Oct. 1911 to Apr. 1916
Item 35	Business Journal

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	May 1916 to May 1921
Item 36	Employee Journal Jan. 23, 1897 to Feb. 1, 1898
Item 37	Cost of projects 1902 to 1907
Item 38	Inventory 1907 to 1921
Item 39	Cash book Jan. 1911 to Nov. 1921
Item 40	Unit of four wooden drawers containing orders 1905 to 1928
Item 41	Order file index A-Blake
Item 42	Order file index Blakeman-Chittenden
Item 43	Order file index Choban-Doran
Item 44	Order file index Doran-George
Item 45	Order file index Ger-Hko
Item 46	Order file index Ho-Kiu
Item 47	Order file index Kl-Ow
Item 48	Order file index P-So
Item 49	Order file index Spa-Z
Item 50	Trade catalogs – oversize: National, GA, MA, VT

Miscellany including sketch and pattern books, cemetery maps, correspondence, etc. (See unnumbered, labeled items and itemized lists inside boxes)

Cross-reference to the trade catalogs follows.

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